

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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USIA FOR IEU

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS/ PFOR, CZ
SUBJECT: CHARTER 77 LEADERSHIP, JULY 1977

1. SUMMARY: ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE LOCAL SOURCE, THE CHARTER 77 MOVEMENT WILL REMAIN SOMNOLENT DURING THE LATE SUMMER. MANY OF ITS LEADERS ARE AT WORK ON THEIR OWN ARTISTIC PROJECTS. EXCEPT FOR A RECENT RELEASE IN WESTERN EUROPE OF A "WHITE PAPER," THE MOVEMENT APPEARS TO HAVE BECOME QUIESCENT, AT LEAST FOR THE PRESENT. END SUMMARY.

2. A SOURCE CLOSE TO THE CHARTER 77 MOVEMENT RECENTLY TOLD THE PAO THAT MANY OF THE CHARTER LEADERS ARE AT WORK IN ISOLATION ON VARIOUS ARTISTIC PROJECTS. LUDVIG VACULIK IS BUSILY WRITING A NEW NOVEL AND DOESN'T WANT TO BE DISTURBED. PAVEL KOHOUT AND IVAN KLIMA REPORTEDLY ARE PREPARING A STAGE ADAPTATION OF KAFKA'S NOVEL "AMERIKA" AND KOHOUT HAS SEVERAL WESTERN EUROPEAN PREMIERES OF HIS WORKS SCHEDULED FOR THIS AUTUMN. KLIMA IS LIKEWISE WRITING ON HIS OWN AND MILAN MAKOVEC, A POLITICAL THEORIST, IS FINISHING A BOOK ON "MARXISM FOR NON-MARXISTS."

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3. SOURCE SAID THAT TRIAL OF FORMER CHARTER SSPOKESMAN VACLAV HAVEL HAS BEEN INDEFINITELY POSTPONED, AND HAVEL IS AT HIS COUNTRY PLACE, WRITING A NOVEL ABOUT HIS PRISON EXPERIENCES AND REPORTEDLY IN RESTORED SPIRITS.

4. SOURCE SAID CHARTER LEADERSHIP BELIEVES STREAM OF BROADSIDES AND SAMIZDAT FEUILLETONS HAVE SERVED THEIR PURPOSE AND WILL

TAPER OFF WITH EXCEPTION OF A "WHITE PAPER," UPDATING AND SUMMARIZING PREVIOUSLY ISSUED PUBLICATIONS WHICH HAS ALREADY APPEARED IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH AND IS AVAILABLE AT PRICE OF \$20 IN PARIS.

5. FYI: ANOTHER CHARTER SIGNER RECENTLY TOLD PAO "SOCIALIST OPPOSITION" STILL HOPES TO RELEASE A VOLUME WITH STATEMENT BY ALEXANDER DUBCEK NEXT AUGUST ON ANNIVERSARY OF SOVIET INVASION. VOLUME WILL INCLUDE COMMENTS OF PROMINENT WORLD LEADERS ON CZECHOSLOVAK INVASION AND EASTERN EUROPE TODAY, PLUS PROVIDING A FORUM FOR CZECHOSLOVAK EMIGRES AND EXILES. END FYI.

6. COMMENT: SUMMER IS GENERALLY REGARDED HRER AS "CUCUMBER SEASON," A TIME WHEN ACTIVITIES MOVE SLOWLY FOR BOTH THE GOC AND THE DISSIDENTS. THAT WOULD APPEAR TO BE THE CASE IN PRAGUE THIS SUMMER. DESPITE AN OVERWHELMING POLICE AND MEDIA PUBLICITY EFFORT, HOWEVER, THE GOC STILL HAS BY NO MEANS SILENCED ITS SO-CALLED "SOCIALIST OPPOSITION"--ALTHOUGH IT HAS MANIFESTLY WORN DOEN, INTIMIDATED, AND ISOLATED MANY OF ITS MEMBERS. FROWICK

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